1	2	3	4
3.	Project Elephant		All States
4.	Project Tiger		All States
5.	National River Conservation Plan		17 States
6.	Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project		All States
7.	Integrated afforestation and Eco Development Projects Scheme		All States
8.	Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants		All States

Laboratory for the conservation of endangered species

908. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the decision of Government, already taken or proposed to be taken with regard to release of funds on long-term basis for 'Laboratory for the conservation of endangered species' under CCMB in Hyderabad, which is pending for the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that then Union Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Forests had laid the foundation stone for this laboratory on 16th September, 2001 itself in view of Andhra Pradesh Government, having already allotted five acres of land amounting to Rs. 20 crores to this research project, which is of unique importance at international level; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not releasing funds so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) A total financial assistance of Rs. 746.787 lakhs has been envisaged *w.e.f.* 1st August, 2003 for a period of five years, to be jointly funded by the Central Zoo Authority (CZA), Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for the establishment of Laboratory for Conservation of Endangered Species (LACONES) under Center for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) in Hyderabad. Of its

share of Rs. 360.00 lakhs, the Central Zoo Authority released Rs. 180.00 lakhs during 2003-04 and the balance of Rs. 180.00 lakhs was released during 2004-05. The DBT and CSIR have also released Rs. 129.90 lakhs and Rs. 18.011 lakhs respectively during the first two years. The balance amount of Rs. 89.86 lakhs for DBT and Rs. 149.06 lakhs for CSIR respectively are due for payment in the next three years starting from 1.4.2005.

(b) Yes, Sir. The foundation stone was laid on 16.9.2001 on the land provided by Andhra Pradesh Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Forest intensity

909. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of forest land having less than 10 per cent forest intensity and less than 5 per cent forest intensity;

(b) the approximate number of years and resources required to bring the areas upto 40 per cent intensity; and

(c) the categories of industry/business from which proposals have been received for allowing commercial plantations on such areas and the fate of such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) According to State of Forest Report 2001 published by the Forest Survey of India, the figures related to density of forest cover are as under:

(area in Km^2)

Geographic area	3,287,263
Recorded forest area	768,436
Dense forest (Canopy density over 40 percent)	416,806
Open forest (Canopy density between 10 to 40 per cent)	258,729

The precise information of land having less than 10 per cent forest cover is not available.